

MINUTES OF WORKSHOP MEETING  
MARCH 26, 2013  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE, TEXAS

The workshop meeting of Meadows Place City Council was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by Mayor Charles Jessup, Meadows Place City Hall, One Troyan Drive, Meadows Place, Texas, with notice of said meeting giving the time, place, date and subject thereof having been posted as prescribed by Section 551.041, TGC with the following members present and in attendance:

Mayor: Charles Jessup

Aldermen: Terry Henley  
John Isbell  
Terry Morgan  
John Whiteman  
Dave Wilkens

thus constituting a quorum.

Absent:

Also present was resident Shirley Isbell.

Mayor Jessup opened the meeting.

The second item for discussion was Water Company Transition. Mayor Jessup stated the City of Rosenberg recently ended its short tenure with SI Water. It appears Meadows Place made the right move by signing a contract with Severn Trent. Severn Trent is doing a great job. Patty Spade who handles the water bills for the City is pleased with Severn Trent. There have been no major complaints and Severn Trent appears to be very knowledgeable and is providing superb service.

The third item on the agenda was discussion of Water Meters/Software. Mayor Jessup stated that all the boxes will need to be replaced and 30% of the boxes will need lids as well. Mayor Jessup covered the history of Southwest Water and how they were once a thriving company but due to billing software problems, their itemized billing became an issue with their clients. One of the unknowns is valves as some of these will have to be replaced but the amount is not certain at this time. Councilmember Henley stated the equity in the utility fund is almost 2 million but it is important that the City spends it wisely. Mayor Jessup agreed that the money is available and it is necessary to purchase water meters and software. It will prepare the City for the future and allow it to move into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Mayor Jessup compared an older meter versus a newer meter and the usage reading in a newer meter is more reliable than the older meters. City of Galveston is going with this same type of upgrade on the entire west end of the island. Mayor Jessup stated if council agrees, the City can proceed with getting the

meters installed. Mayor Jessup stated Ms. Spade reported technical issues with her current printer that created a problem when printing bills as well as losing lots of paper with fixing it. Councilmember Henley asked if the meter installation will impact future installation of lines that Center Point may be replacing soon. This will include digging in the same areas where meters will be installed. Mayor Jessup stated, no that he did not see the relevancy of digging in the future with installing meters. Mayor Jessup stated between now and December of this year, the City should be paying off WCID#2. Councilmember Isbell asked if the printer needs to be replaced. Mayor Jessup stated the printer can be replaced for \$390 dollars online but the software is the more important item. Next was discussion of Software as a part of the Water Meters discussion. Mayor Jessup stated if the City of Meadows Place would like to cater to the younger professional, it is pertinent that the City continue enhancing its technology. Mayor Jessup stated his son's using an app on his phone to pay his water bill. AVR will be back out next month to meet with staff.

Councilmember Henley stated that he had to leave as he had a board meeting to attend.

The fourth item on the agenda was the Courtroom Technology. Mayor Jessup stated that the City chose a vendor from various bids that ranged from \$15,000 dollars to \$ 50,000. Yolanda Wilson, City Secretary stated that the total cost was \$13,727.00. The City saved \$3,000 dollars as most of the equipment that was used to house the new A/V equipment in court is either rebuilt or refurbished. AVES, company that installed equipment is a very reputable company located in Fort Bend County. This type of technology will have an impact on increases in court as well as assisting police officers with ensuring that what they say in court is true. It will help Chief Gary Stewart with training officers by reviewing video utilizing this type of technology. Purchasing new billing software with AVR would be a part of improving customer service.

The fifth item on the agenda was a discussion of Overtime and Work Situation. Currently, Judge McMinn, Associate full-time judge has been out ill. City employees, Patty Spade and Mimi Boos have been taking work home to complete ticket processing. Judge McMinn is on light duty after having surgery. She can only work 4 hours per day. Tracey Spiller and Monica Parsons, Parks and Recreation employee have also been assisting in Judge McMinn's absence. Mayor Jessup reminded Council that Judge McMinn is more than a court clerk, she is also a judge and there are functions that only a judge can perform. A request for an additional employee will be made during budget time.

The sixth item on the agenda was discussion of Potential Businesses/EDC. Mayor Jessup met with Billy Burge who is the owner of the corner of West Airport and Kirkwood. Mr. Burge is optimistic about this project. The other developers who were looking at the site wanted to build apartments but no one wants that to happen. The representative that is coming to meet with Mayor Jessup tomorrow is interested in developing apartments.

The last item on the agenda was upcoming Council meeting agenda items. Mayor Jessup stated if Council would like to request items to be on the agenda for discussion to please contact the City Secretary. Mayor Jessup stated council will be voting on an Ordinance to approve appointing David Lantz to the Economic Development Corporation. CM Whiteman stated Mr. Lantz was raised here as a child in Meadows Place. Mr. Lantz's father died of a heart attack when he was very young and his mother passed away a couple of years ago. He went off to school and moved away for a while. Mr. Lantz returned and purchased his own home in Meadows Place. Mayor Jessup asked that Council table item 7 and consider setting a meeting date for a budget amendment. It is inevitable that council will have to amend the budget because it will be purchasing water meters and software. Council agreed to hold a public hearing to amend budget on August 27, 2013.

There being no further business to consider, Councilmember Terry Morgan made a motion, seconded by Councilmember John Whiteman, to adjourn the meeting. With unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

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Yolanda Wilson, City Secretary